

**To:** Jacobs, Sara[Jacobs.Sara@epa.gov]; Ripperda, Mark[Ripperda.Mark@epa.gov]; Hubbard, Secody[Hubbard.Secody@epa.gov]  
**From:** Blair Stone-Schneider  
**Sent:** Mon 8/17/2015 4:29:54 PM  
**Subject:** Re: RWPRCA August 13, 2015 Meeting Summary

Hi everyone,

Is there a time this week that you all are available to discuss any items from the RWPRCA meeting? I will be working on getting an agenda together for next week's TASC call and expect that some of the items from last week's meeting might be discussed.

I am not sure if Mark and Secody are back in the office or still in the field for the Gold King response, but thought I'd check!

Thanks,

Blair

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**From:** Blair Stone-Schneider  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:14 PM  
**To:** Jacobs, Sara; Ripperda, Mark; Hubbard, Secody  
**Cc:** Krissy Russell-Hedstrom  
**Subject:** RWPRCA August 13, 2015 Meeting Summary

Hi everyone,

I attended the August 13, 2015 Red Water Pond Road Community meeting last night. The meeting was well attended and included updates from myself, Susan Gordon (Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment) and Council Delegate Jonathan Perry. Jordan Johnson from McKinley County Place Matters could not be there, but Susan gave updates on his behalf. Council delegate Perry was there to discuss several issues

on behalf of Navajo Nation, including the new Uranium Commission and a tour for council delegates of the communities affected by uranium. The TASC highlights are below:

1. Salt Brush Cutting: I relayed information from Sara on possible areas for cutting back the salt bush and GE's response regarding lack of future revegetation in areas that have been cut back. The community reiterated concerns about potential hazards posed by the salt brush, such as providing habitat for snakes and mosquitos and reducing visibility in areas where children walk and play. Several community members pointed out that this bush would not normally grow in these areas and that they would prefer natural vegetation, such as rabbit bush, there instead. Grace asked if it would be possible to have the area revegetated with the same plants that are growing along the road. They are more grass-like, grow lower to the ground and are easier to walk through.

a. Location preference for cutting back brush: The community likes the idea of a 20-foot perimeter cut around the new hogan and would also like an area cut on the south side that would allow for parking. They would like to have a perimeter cut around the school bus drop off, to reduce mosquitos there and provide better visibility for children waiting on the bus. They also requested cutting back the brush on both sides of the road leading up to the houses, so that people walking along the road are more visible to passing cars.

b. Preferences for cutting methods and height: Two community members suggested that the salt brush could be thinned rather than cut down, though there was not agreement on this idea. Tony suggested cutting the brush back as close to the ground as possible.

c. Additional comments on vegetation and salt brush: Several community members asked if GE was planning to come out and view the salt brush, to see the issue for themselves. Tony asked when the contractor was planning to replant juniper and piñon in the interim area. He stated that he understood that would happen once the grasses were established.

2. September 30th Site Walk: The community asked if the 5 p.m. time for the walk is set or if it might be possible to start earlier, at 4:30 p.m., for more daylight. There wasn't consensus on moving the start time. The community asked for confirmation on who would be attending from EPA and GE.

a. On inviting other attendees: Edith asked that EPA staff invite any additional chapter officials, as they would be more likely to show up that way. She asked specifically about Coyote Canyon Chapter officials. Larry King suggested inviting other officials as well. Annie agreed that this should be placed on the August 24, 2015 call agenda, to provide

more time to discuss specific invitees.

3. Scanning Results for Jack's House: I informed the community that I was not able to get information from Chandra on any past results from the NNEPA Structures program on the house. Peterson commented that he knew of previous scans outside of Jack's home as well as the walkthrough by Chris Shuey during last month's commemoration. He could not remember if the Structures program had worked there. Jackie asked that we follow up with NNEPA on this again to be sure. She requested an evaluation of the house by the Structures program if it had not been done earlier, and to then compare those results to any other previous scans. Jackie then asked if her home, and all of the homes in the community, could be rescanned and compared to previous results as well.

4. Janet's Groundwater Sessions: I relayed Janet's intent to discuss scheduling and planning groundwater information sessions during the next TASC Call (August 24, 2015) and her attendance at the next RWPRCA meeting (September 9, 2015). The community was in agreement on both of these items.

5. Other Items of Note:

a. Peterson asked if I knew whether Mark was still planning to come to look at vent holes this week. He acknowledged that everyone was likely busy with the Animas spill. Peterson said he would still like to show Mark the other three vent holes when possible.

b. During the discussion of the July commemoration, one community member noted that Tony Tom from Pipeline Road had attended, and that the Pipeline Road community was working with John Plummer to set up a similar community group.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Blair

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